

Girard Township

Regular Monthly Meeting -- MINUTES

Tuesday, October 15, 2024 – 6:00 p.m.

Website: (www.girardtownship.us)

Open meeting with the pledge to the flag

Present: Supervisors Pedersen, Grewe, and Estes, Treasurer Trites, Maintenance Worker Luhning, and Clerk Irmen

Absent: Road Engineer Stabnow

Visitors: Jerry Emmerich Greg Gjere, and Lynette Johnson

Mr. Gjere presented information on a shared property line that was incorrect and favored his neighbor. As it involved a township road, he thought the Township would be interested in it. However, it wasn't a road the Township maintained. He was advised to consult with a surveyor and an attorney to sort out the issues.

Mrs. Johnson, with Anderson Land Surveying, brought a mylar for signature by the Chairman of the board regarding Young's Maple Lane Acres.

Grewe moved to approve the **AGENDA** for the October 15, 2024, regular meeting. Estes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Grewe moved to approve the **MINUTES** from the regular monthly meeting held **Tuesday, September 17, 2024**, at the Town Hall. Estes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer Trites presented the September financial report showing a beginning balance of \$935,193.20, with receipts totaling \$1,152.76, and disbursements totaling \$76,233.84, for an ending balance of \$860,112.12. The report was filed for audit.

Estes moved to approve claims as presented/audited, totaling \$2766.19; payroll for Estes, Grewe, Irmen, Jacobson, Luhning (2), Pedersen, and K. Trites, and any additional claims that may be presented at this meeting. No additional claims were presented. Grewe seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Mail — OTC Historical Society Newsletter; Lake Region Electric Coop Newsletter

Reports/Information

Roads and Equipment – Luhning reported that the fallen tree near the J. Trites property on Grace Etta Rd was cleared. Pedersen noted there were two approaches that required finishing off and asked the clerk to send letters to the property owners. Luhning said that the tires from the mower he took to Scotty's Tires were back and that he will be taking the truck in for its annual DOT inspection next week. Will was asked to call Brogard's regarding a plugged culvert.

Clerk's Report: The clerk will register Pedersen and herself to attend the MAT Annual Conference in St. Cloud in early December. Cost is \$170/person and Pedersen will make his hotel reservation. The clerk reported that the CTAS update allowing reimbursements to be

added through the program has been updated for Girard Township. She also presented questions from Mark Christianson on Dust Control. Based on advice from the chairman, she relayed information from Pedersen that advised the property owner to directly contact Fergus Power Pump to arrange application. The clerk requested the board approve a \$30 fee for her to attend Year-end training in St. Michael (MAT office) Nov. 14. Pedersen moved and Grewe seconded the expenditure. Motion carried unanimously. A Public Notice of Intent to Reissue and Modify a permit for the Henning Transfer Station and Demolition Landfill was presented. No concerns were expressed regarding issuance of the permit, so no action was necessary. **Fire meeting** – Pedersen noted that the Battle Lake Fire Dept. is scheduling replacement of its ladder truck in about five years.

New Business/Additions to Agenda

With the approval of the claims, the supervisors approved 36 yards of additional gravel loads for shouldering on Chippewa Rd and Liberty Lane at a cost of \$390.60 to Ottertail Aggregate.

Grewe moved to approve a resolution to enter into a contract with Otter Tail County Highway Department for approximately 200 yards of Winter Sand, at a cost of \$44.40 per cubic yard, or \$31.70 per ton; and 10 yards of Straight salt at \$141.13 per cubic yard or \$128.30 per ton, which will be hauled by Girard Township. Pedersen seconded. Motion carried, with Estes voting against.

The supervisors acknowledged the 43 miles of Girard roads were accurate as recorded in the OTC Mileage Certification report.

The supervisors tabled discussion on Seal Coat and Traffic Marking projects for 2025 until its November regular meeting to allow for identification of any areas that may need work.

Pedersen moved to allow the clerk to register two people for the MAT Annual Conference at a cost of \$340, plus a hotel reservation for one night for the chairman, to attend both Friday and Saturday's meeting. Grewe seconded. Motion carried, with Estes voting against.

Old Business

Following a brief discussion, the supervisors determined the purchase of a used roller was not worth the investment at this time.

After last month's discussion of a CUP for John Lhotak, and under the direction of the board to send a letter to the property owner, the clerk reviewed the letter sent.

Pedersen inspected the Stafki approach and said it met Girard standards, so he recommended that it be approved. Estes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Estes brought up a discussion on the SIP House, a business operating in Girard Township, noting that he had received a complaint about the number of vehicles parked at the business during a recent event. A visitor to the meeting who lives next door to the business said the owners are

proactive and conscientious to ensure no driveways are blocked by vehicles visiting their business, and the business hours are neighborhood friendly. However, Estes said there could be a liability issue as the business is only licensed for 10 to 12 parking spots. No action was taken.

Dates to remember

Tuesday, October 22, 2024 – EOT Association of Townships Annual Meeting, Dinner at 6:30 p.m., at the Deer Creek Community Center

Thursday, Nov. 14 – Year-End Training for Clerks and Treasurers – 1 to 4 p.m., MAT office, St. Michael

Friday-Saturday, Dec. 13-14 – MAT Annual Conference – River's Edge Convention Center, St. Cloud

Monday, January 27, 2025 – Township Day at the Capitol, 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., St. Paul

Adjourn meeting

Estes moved to adjourn the meeting at 8 p.m. Grewe seconded. Motion carried unanimously.